

ANS Correspondence

Langdale, William G.  
[Cincinnati, OH]

1925

Cincinnati O.

June 23-25

Numismatic Soc. Amer.

New York N. Y.  
Gentlemen.

I want to trouble you  
for a little information or  
guidance in the way of advice  
as to how or where to  
proceed in the start of collection  
of coins.

If you have any  
literature that will be of help  
to me I will thank you  
for it. - Respectfully

Wm. G. Langdale  
906 Morris St  
Cincinnati O.

June 25, 1925

Wm. G. Langdale, Esq.  
906 Morris Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the twenty-third interests me very much and of course we want to help you if that is possible.

Won't you be so good as to give me a little more data upon which to proceed? Is your interest in the coins of the United States or European pieces? Perhaps you are interested in ancient coins. It would help somewhat if you would let me know your age and to what extent you intend investing in a coin collection. Do you ever come to New York? If so, I hope you will not fail to visit our Museum where I can show you some of the items of interest. The field is so large that until I have a little more definite idea of where your inclination lies it will be difficult for me to be definite in aiding you.

Very truly yours

SPN C

Secretary

Cincinnati O.

June 27<sup>th</sup> 1925

Mr S. P. Noe

Secy - A. N. S.

Dear Sir:

My plan is merely to use the collection of coins as a matter of pleasure and pastime This is in answer to your letter of June 25.

I am fifty years old and am not at present expecting to invest very heavily in this project.

If I invest \$25 a year this will probably be the extent financially of my interest in numismatics.

I have in mind just a plain general collection of coins without restricting myself to any particular kinds, dates, class etc.

Merely something to divert myself from business and other cares. - I will fully appreciate any directions or aid that

✓  
your society can offer —  
I know nothing of numismatics,  
practically, only I have the  
feeling that I can acquire  
interest in the undertaking  
of collecting coins —

Respectfully

W.S. Langdale.

June 30, 1925

W. G. Langdale, Esq.  
906 Morris Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Mr. Langdale:

Your letter of the twenty-seventh is a great help in trying to answer your previous communication. My first suggestion would be that you try to get hold of some books which would aid you and these should be procurable at the Public Library of your city. I think you will find that if they do not have such they will be glad to secure them for you.

Some people would think that we should advise you to begin a collection of United States coins but there are several very good reasons against this, the chief element being the high cost of anything more than the ordinary issues which would have little to offer in the way of stimulation or information. If you have travelled at all in Europe or have associations with any particular country you would probably profit more by limiting yourself to the coinage of that nation and with the amount you expect to spend annually you could still acquire a sufficient number of pieces to keep up your interest. If you read French or Italian or German, it would simplify matters. We find that coins do more to awaken and develop an interest in history than any other single agency that can be brought to bear, with the possible exception of travel or residence abroad.

Most beginners start with United States cents and make a mighty effort to obtain a coin for every year but once this objective is achieved they are at a loss. If you have a knowledge of Latin it might be worth your while to think of collecting Roman consular coins. I would suggest your getting hold of the following books and trying further to limit your aim so that there might be a greater benefit to you through concentration:

Rawlings - Coins and How to Know Them.

Burgess - Chats on Old Coins.

Ancient Coins

Hill, Handbook of Greek and Roman Coins  
MacDonald, Coin Types

Is there a file of the American Journal of Numismatics or of the Numismatist in your Library? I should be very glad to have you write me further.

Very truly yours



C. 268

Benjamin O.

July 16/25

The Amer. Numismatic Society -  
New York N. Y.  
Gentlemen, -

I received a letter from you  
on June 30 in answer to a previous  
letter - in response to the inquiry  
in the last paragraph of your  
letter - there seem to be nothing  
on file pertaining to numismatics  
in our library - at least there is  
nothing in at present. -

I am enclosing a roman  
coin for your inspection  
and will thank you for  
its history  
as complete as you can  
conveniently let me have, so  
long as it does not involve  
a heavy financial obligation

This will oblige me  
very much

W. G. Langdale  
906 Morris St  
Cincinnati O.



July 17, 1925

W. C. Langdale, Esq.  
906 Morris Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Mr. Langdale:

Yours of the 16th is at hand. First, regarding the books. If you will take up the matter with the Chief Librarian, I feel sure that you will find them very responsive to a suggestion that they secure some of the books which I quoted in my letter of the 30th. In a city the size of Cincinnati, the Library should have more than these titles on its shelves already. Have you thought to inquire at the Library of the Art Museum. It might be that they would have something.

Next, I should suggest your writing to a coin dealer, stating just what you expect to spend and the field in which you are interested. If, as the coin which you have sent me seems to indicate, you might become interested in the Roman series, you might do well to write to Mr. Wayte Raymond, 489 Park Avenue, New York City or to Mr. Henry Chapman, 333 So. 16th Street, Philadelphia, Penna. Outside of the Roman field, however, prices are likely to be so high that you will get very few pieces for the amount of money you expect to spend annually.

Turning now to the coin which you send me, it seems to be what is known as a small bronze of the Roman Emperor Tetricus (about 268 A. D.) Any good Roman history will give you some account of the part he played and of his importance in the late Empire.

I should be very glad to help you further in any way possible if you will write to me.

Very truly yours

SPN C

Secretary